

# First Impressions

*written by Zel*

*Note to Tutor: These activities are focused on words.*

**When I arrived** in Australia many years ago,  
I have to admit that I was scared when  
we landed, as I didn't know what to expect.  
We had been flying for 24 hours and I thought  
“Dear God, I am at the end of the world”.



During our journey to our new home, everything I saw was like the bush.  
It was like wasteland and I thought I would be living in the desert.

**However**, our new house was a very nice surprise – it even had a garden with a palm tree. I had never seen a palm tree before. I was so happy.

The next day we went to Rockingham Shopping Centre which I loved. I wanted to continue my career here as a hairdresser, so I asked for help with a volunteer tutor to improve my English literacy.

**After six months** with a tutor, I now have full-time work as a hairdresser. I know I still have more to learn. My impression now is that Australia is a great country to live in and I love the salon where I work.



## Activities, to do with First Impressions

Tell your tutor about what you just read; **just the main points.**

What reason does Zel (the writer) give, for being scared when she landed?

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Was it a long flight? ..... How long? .....

What is Zel's career? .....

Does Zel think Australia is a good country to live in?      Yes              No

Where do you think Zel might have come from ? .....

**Find the word in the text which means the same as the description:**

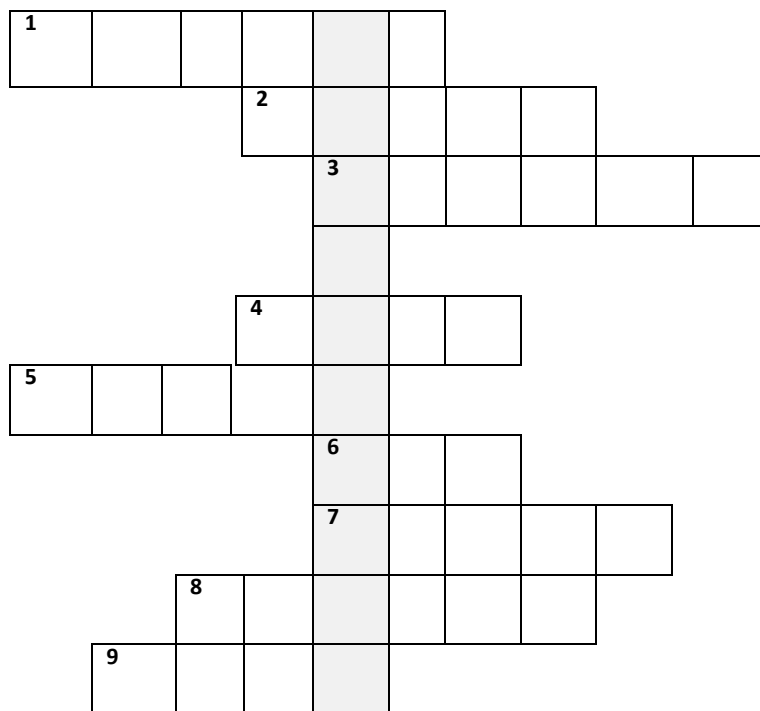
*The first one is done for you.*

Description	Word in Text
a place where flowers grow	garden
someone who cuts hair	
where that person works	
the country we live in	
a trip	
someone who works for no payment	
the main language spoken in Australia	
reading and writing	
another word for a teacher	

# Create the mystery word!

Here are your clues:

1. A dry place in the middle of Australia
2. There are 24 in a day!
3. The middle of anything
4. Pleasant
5. Where this hairdresser works
6. Supreme power – used here as an exclamation
7. How Zel felt when she saw the palm tree
8. How Zel felt when she landed
9. The type of tree



And the mystery word, running right down the centre, is:

.....



## Scrambled letters!

Find a word in the 2nd line which has these letters - t,m,a,i,d : .....

This goes at the start of a letter – e,r ,a ,d: ..... (Is also in 5th line)

Australian forest (occurs in the 7<sup>th</sup> line) – s, h, b, u: .....

Zel's new house was this! p, u, i, r, i, s, s,e : .....

What Australia is, and it's in the last line: o, u, c, t, y, r, n: .....



What word (in the text) can you make, out of these letters? It occurs twice in the text. *Hint: **You** have one!*

o, t, r, t, u

.....

## How many words can you make...?

... out of the letters in **wasteland** ?

*You can only use each letter of 'wasteland' as many times as it occurs (so you can use 2 'a's)*

3-letter words	4-letter words	5-letters words	Words of more than 5 letters